IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Previously Presented): A spacer comprising

a core which does not exhibit electronic conductivity and

at least one coating comprising at least one layer of a glass exhibiting electronic conductivity coated on said core, wherein the glass is capable of providing the spacer an electronic conductivity at 50 °C of 10^{-13} to 10 $ohm^{-1}.cm^{-1}$,

wherein said spacer is capable of maintaining a space between two substrates formed from glass sheets, over the entire area of the sheet substrates, in a device

the surface of said spacer is at least partly electronically conducting, and

the shape and the constituent material of the spacer provide thermomechanical integrity of the substrates in the device,

wherein the glass comprised in said coating is a glass having the following composition, in mol%, for a total of 100 mol%:

(A) SiO_2 25-75

(B) at least one oxide of a

transition element of Groups IB, IIIB, VB, VIB, VIIB and VIII of the Periodic Table of the Elements that optionally exist in a number of oxidation states ... 1-30

(C) Al_2O_3 0-40

(D) ZrO_2 0-10

(E) at least one material selected from the group consisting of Li_2O, Na_2O and K_2O.....0-10

(F) at least one material selected from the group consisting of MgO, CaO, SrO and BaO 0-40

(H) B_2O_3 0-30

(I) P_2O_5.....0-5

(J) TiO_2 0-10

(K) ZnO 0-10

(M) additives.....0-1

(N) impurities..... complement to 100 mol%..

Claim 2 (Previously Presented): The spacer as claimed in claim 1, wherein the spacer has an electronic conductivity of 10^{-12} to 10^{-2} $ohm^{-1}.cm^{-1}$.

Claims 3-5 (Cancelled).

Claim 6 (Previously Presented): The spacer as claimed in claim 1, wherein the coating consists of one layer.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): The spacer as claimed in claim 1, wherein each layer of the coating has a thickness from 1 to 10,000 nm.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented): The spacer as claimed in claim 1, wherein the spacer further comprises at least one layer of at least one agent to promote the adhesion and/or bonding of the coating to the core between the core and the coating.

Claim 9 (Previously Presented): The spacer as claimed in claim 1, wherein the core comprises a material selected from the group consisting of glasses, ceramics and polymers, wherein said core optionally comprises same glass as that comprised in the substrates.

Claim 10 (Previously Presented): The spacer as claimed in claim 9, wherein the core comprises a glass having an expansion coefficient between 20 and 300°C of between 60 x 10^{-7} and 105 x 10^{-7} K^{-1}, wherein the core optionally comprises a glass of the borosilicate type having an expansion coefficient of between 30 x 10^{-7} and 50 x 10^{-7} K^{-1}.

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): The spacer as claimed in claim 1, wherein the core comprises a glass having a temperature corresponding to the strain point of greater than 500°C.

Claim 12 (Previously Presented): The spacer as claimed in claim 1, wherein the core comprises a glass having an elastic modulus greater than 90 GPa.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): The spacer as claimed in claim 1, wherein the core comprises a glass having the following composition, in mol% for a total of 100 mol %

(A') SiO_2 25-75

(C') Al_2O_3.....0-40

(D') ZrO_2 0-10

(E') at least one material selected from the group consisting of Li_2O, Na_2O and K_2O.....0-10

(F') at least one material selected from the group consisting of MgO, CaO, SrO and BaO.....0-40

(G') at least one oxide of at least one element selected from the group consisting of Y, La and elements of the lanthanide series

.....0-25

(H') B_2O_3 0-30

(I') P_2O_5 0-5

(J') TiO_2 0-10

(K') ZnO 0-10

(L') nitrogen in combined form 0-20

(M') additives 0-1

(N') impurities ..... complement to 100 mol%.

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): The spacer as claimed in claim 1, wherein the core has a prismatic shape.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): The spacer as claimed in claim 1, wherein the spacer has an electrical resistance to the flow of current of between 10^{-5} and 10^{7} GΩ.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented): The spacer as claimed in claim 1, wherein the spacer has a density of greater than 3.

Claim 17 (Previously Presented): The spacer as claimed in claim 1, wherein the spacer is black or dark in color.

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): The spacer as claimed in claim 14, wherein the spacer is in the shape of pillars or of elongate beams,

wherein the pillars or the edges of the elongate beams comprise metal electrodes deposited on the sections of the pillars or the edges of the elongate beams to facilitate the removal of surface charges from the spacer to the electrodes.

Claims 19-25 (Canceled).

Claim 26 (Previously Presented): The spacer as claimed in claim 1, wherein the device is a display screen, a vacuum glazing and a flat lamp comprising at least two glass sheets.

Claim 27 (Previously Presented): A display screen, vacuum glazing and flat lamp comprising at least two glass sheets separated by spacers as claimed in claim 1.